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## **NEW RESEARCH EXAMINES DATA MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY POLICIES IN THE CLOUD**

*82% of Federal leaders agree the amount of streaming data their agency manages is on the rise; while 90% believe robust data security will help maximize cloud computing benefits*

**Alexandria, Va., August 10, 2020** – MeriTalk, a public-private partnership focused on improving the outcomes of government IT, announced the results of a new survey and presented the findings in two infographics, “Data Constellations: Connecting the Dots in Federal Cloud” and “Security Spark: Igniting Governance and Control in Federal Cloud.” The studies, underwritten by Cloudera, are based on a survey of 150 Federal IT managers and examine data management and security policies in the cloud.

With the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) recent release of [The Federal Data Strategy 2020 Action Plan](#), agencies are more focused than ever on leveraging data as a strategic asset. The “Data Constellations: Connecting the Dots in Federal Cloud” infographic examines how strategies differ when it comes to streaming data. The report highlights the steps agencies are taking to gain real-time insight from streaming data, and the challenges that are faced.

Findings show 82 percent of Feds surveyed agree the amount of streaming data their agency manages is on the rise; with 85 percent noting that the ability to draw insights from it is the key to modern decision-making. However, just 53 percent have a formal strategy for streaming data and less than a third (31 percent) are fully confident in their ability to democratize data originating from a variety of sources.

When asked about top management challenges, Feds cited security concerns, the overwhelming volume of data, and reliance on legacy infrastructure. Additionally, 66 percent said they struggled with onboarding new data sources into the cloud.

Nearly all Feds surveyed, 88 percent, said they want more real-time capture and analysis of data sources and saw benefits in adopting effective streaming data solutions. To review the full infographic, visit: <https://www.meritalk.com/study/data-constellations/>

The second infographic, “Security Spark: Igniting Governance and Control in Federal Cloud” examines how agencies ensure their data is protected across private, hybrid, and multi-cloud environments. It explores how agencies are utilizing encryption and backup to protect both streaming data and data-at-rest – ensuring security and governance policies are compliant and consistent across all data and workloads.

The research found that 90 percent of Feds believe robust data security will enable their agency to fully realize their cloud computing benefits. It noted that agencies are currently taking several steps to secure data in the cloud, including utilizing encryption, deploying firewalls, adopting regulatory-compliant cloud solutions, and replicating security policies across data sets.

However, 59 percent of Feds surveyed said their agency struggles to secure its data consistently between on-premises and cloud. Respondents noted that ensuring compliance across environments is the top challenge agencies face in managing security through the data life cycle.

In conclusion, the report found that nearly all Feds surveyed – 95 percent – are prioritizing cloud data governance improvements over the next five years. To review the full infographic, visit: <https://www.meritalk.com/study/security-spark/>

“The ‘Data Constellations: Connecting the Dots in Federal Cloud’ and ‘Security Spark: Igniting Governance and Control in Federal Cloud’ infographics offer noteworthy insight into data management and data security across agencies,” says, Shaun Bierweiler, president of Cloudera Government Solutions. “At Cloudera, we focus on helping agencies manage real-time data streaming while providing unified security and Edge to Enterprise governance.”

## **About MeriTalk**

The voice of tomorrow's government today, MeriTalk is a public-private partnership focused on improving the outcomes of government IT. Our award-winning editorial team and world-class events and research staff produces unmatched news, analysis, and insight. The goal: more efficient, responsive, and citizen-centric government. MeriTalk connects with an audience of 151,000 Federal community contacts. For more information, visit [www.MeriTalk.com](http://www.MeriTalk.com) or follow us on Twitter, [@MeriTalk](https://twitter.com/MeriTalk). MeriTalk is a 300Brand organization.

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